GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:461
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
WATER POLLUTION .
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated with regard to checking of water pollution in the country;

(b) the total amount spent on the implementation of these schemes during each of the last three years, scheme-wise;

(c) whether the C&AG in its recent report has revealed shortcomings in the implementation of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) whether the water pollution in the country is increasing day by day and various agencies have failed to check the same;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent of success achieved in this regard so far; and (g) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the water pollution and enforce the Act effectively?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Government has launched schemes such as National River Conservation Plan, GangaAction Plan, Yamuna Action Plan, Gomti Action Plan, National Water Quality Monitoring Programme, Common Effluent Treatment Plants etc. to check water pollution. These schemes include diversion, interception and treatment of wastewater generated by various towns/industries. Central Pollution Control Board along with State Pollution Control Boards is monitoring the water quality of rivers and lakes at 507 locations. The amounts spent on these schemes during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Projects	Year 1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (up to Feb., 2002)
National River Conservation Plan (as on 31.12.2001)	6205.00	6432.11	6301.30
Yamuna Action Plan Phase II (as on 31.12.2001)	7201.73	2489.96	772.29
Gomti Action Plan (as on 31.12.2001)	118.22	658.00	500.00
Ganga Action Plan - II (Main stem) (as on 31.12.2001)	1718.29	1987.60	2848.00

National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 62.44 54.92 56.13

Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) 129.09 320.43 248.89

(c),& (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General`s Report indicated gaps in implementation ofpollution control programme by State Pollution Control Boards with regard to maintenance of water quality in river and other water bodies

(e), (f)& (g) Steps taken to check water pollution in the country include :

(i) Periodic interaction meetings are held with the personnel at various levels of the Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

(ii) State Governments have been advised to induct professionals in the Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs).

(iii) Guidelines have been framed for streamlining the procedure for issuance of consent and authorisation by the Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Minimal National Standards for control of pollution from various sources have been laiddown by the Central Pollution Control Board for implementation through the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.

(v) Effluent standards have been notified for 71 different categories of industries.

(vi) Water quality at 507 monitoring stations carried out by State Pollution Control Board have been reviewed and data used for executing programmes on abatement of pollution in rivers and lakes.

(vii) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) directed the State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees fo identification of grossly polluting industries and for taking action against those have not provided the requisite Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs).

(viii) Financial assistance is provided for installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in cluster of small-scale industry.

(ix) Out of 1551 large and medium industrial units in highly polluting categories 1350 have installed requisite pollution control system, 177 are closed and 24 units are in various stages of upgrading their effluent treatment system.